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2 Salvadoran Officers With Alleged Death-Squad Ties Shifted

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SAN SALVADOR, May 24—The Armed Forces announced today that the head of the Treasury Police and an Army provincial commander, both of whom have been linked to right-wing death squads, have been ordered transferred abroad.

The Treasury Police chief, Col. Nicolas Carranza, is the highest ranking and most influential officer to lose his post in a series of transfers of suspected death-squad leaders that began last November under U.S. government pressure.

Lt. Col. Mario Denis Moran, Army commander in La Paz province, was assigned to join the staff of the Inter-American Defense College at Fort McNair in Washington.

The Armed Forces ordered the transfers

as part of a "housecleaning" of the military both to satisfy U.S. demands and to appear conciliatory to President-elect Jose Napoleon Duarte, who takes office on June 1, according to military sources who asked to remain anonymous.

The transfers were expected to be only partially satisfactory to Duarte's moderate Christian Democratic Party, which has sought removal of at least three other right-wing officers, political sources said.

Carranza, 51, was assigned to be military attache in West Germany, a military announcement said. He has been identified by sources cited in American news reports both as a senior figure in the death squads and as a \$90,000-a-year paid informant of the CIA. He has denied both allegations.

Col. Reynaldo Golcher, currently director of an Armed Forces research center, will replace Carranza as head of the Treasury Police. Until September, Golcher presided over a U.S.-sponsored pacification program in San Vicente province.

Moran has been linked to death-squad activity by U.S. and Salvadoran sources and is suspected of having helped to cover up the January 1981 killings of two U.S. land-reform advisers, including Michael Hammer of Potomac, Md.

The U.S. government has applied heavy pressure on Salvadoran authorities to prosecute an officer close to Moran who allegedly ordered the killings. So far, the U.S. efforts have been unsuccessful.

The Treasury Police is one of El Salvador's three security forces and has the reputation of being the most ruthless. It lost its long-time chief of intelligence, Maj. Jose Ricardo Pozo, in November after U.S. officials pressed for his transfer because of his alleged ties to the death squads. Pozo was sent into diplomatic exile in January as military attache in Paraguay.

Carranza is a close associate of Salvadoran right-wing political leader Roberto D'Aubuisson, the former Army major who lost to Duarte in the presidential runoff election on May 6. "Carranza would have been D'Aubuisson's defense minister if D'Aubuisson had won," an Army officer said.

A former senior Salvadoran military official charged in March that Carranza and D'Aubuisson played important roles in organizing the vigilante groups that have killed thousands of persons suspected of left-wing sympathies.

Duarte has had poor relations with Carranza since they clashed when Duarte headed the ruling junta from 1980 to 1982 and Carranza was deputy defense minister.

The Christian Democrats, who historically have had uneasy relations with the military, have sought the transfer to foreign positions or to less important posts of at least three other right-wing officers, including the head of the national electricity company, according to political sources. One or more of these officers could be transferred soon after Duarte takes office, military sources said.